



## URBAN FORESTRY BOARD MINUTES

**SPECIAL MEETING**  
**Saturday January 21, 2012**

**The Urban Forestry Board convened a Special Meeting on Saturday January 21, 2012 at 8:00am at the Learning Resource Center, 2800 Spirit of Texas Dr. Austin, Texas 78719**

### **Board Members in attendance:**

**Patrick Brewer, Chair**  
**Nicholas Classen**  
**April Rose**

**Tom Hayes, Vice Chair**  
**Peggy Maceo**

**Ryan Fleming**  
**Christopher Kite**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER**

**Chair Brewer called the Special Meeting to order at 8:20am.**

### **II. CITIZEN COMMUNICATION**

**Citizen communications occurred.**

### **III. NEW BUSINESS**

City Code under section 6-3-5 states that “with the assistance of the urban forester, the [Urban Forestry] board shall develop and revise the [Comprehensive Urban Forest] plan. A working group of the Urban Forestry Board has worked with the urban forester to develop a draft outline for this plan. The full board will meet to review the working group’s progress and provide input on the section indicated in the posted backup material for this special meeting.

- a. Discuss and comment on the Six Vision Components listed in the Comprehensive Urban Forest Plan Draft Outline to include goals, opportunities, challenges, and threats of each Component. Board members will have the opportunity to provide input on each aspect.

**The Board unanimously agreed to discuss the following items in a modified order as follows: first – Thriving, second – Healthy, third – Contiguous, fourth – Protected, fifth – Valued, sixth – Cared for.**

- i. Vision Component # 1: Thriving (Definition: A thriving urban forest is one that is optimized according to site and ecosystem capacity.)

**The Board reached consensus on the above definition and provided feedback regarding related goals, opportunities, challenges, and threats.**

- ii. Vision Component # 2: Contiguous Ecosystem (Definition: A contiguous urban forest is composed of interconnected, forested corridors for transportation, community, recreation and wildlife throughout the city.)

**The Board reached consensus on a modified definition for this component and provided feedback regarding related goals, opportunities, challenges, and threats.**

- iii. Vision Component # 3: Healthy Ecosystem (Definition: A healthy urban forest is comprised of a diverse, native and uneven-aged palate of species adapted to the unique growing conditions of ecosystem types.)

**The Board reached consensus on a modified definition for this component and provided feedback regarding related goals, opportunities, challenges, and threats.**

- iv. Vision Component # 4: Valued (Definition: A valued urban forest is recognized as an asset that is essential to the well being of the community and the ecosystem.)

**The Board reached consensus on a modified definition for this component and provided feedback regarding related goals, opportunities, challenges, and threats.**

- v. Vision Component # 5: Protected (Definition: Trees are protected through sustainable site design and land management practices so that long-term ecosystem health is maintained.)

**The Board reached consensus on a modified definition for this component and provided feedback regarding related goals, opportunities, challenges, and threats.**

- vi. Vision Component # 6: Cared For (Definition: A well cared for urban forest is proactively managed for health, longevity and safety.)

**The Board reached consensus on the above definition and provided feedback regarding related goals, opportunities, challenges, and threats.**

- b. Consider directing staff to compile comments generated from this retreat for the next working group meeting.

**The motion to direct staff to compile results of this Special Meeting and to make said results available for the next working group meeting was approved on Board Member Fleming's motion, Board Member Rose second, on a 6-0 vote; Board Member Maceo left the dais prior to the motion.**

#### IV. ADJOURN

**Chair Brewer adjourned the meeting at 4:25pm.**

The City of Austin is committed to compliance with the American with Disabilities Act. Reasonable modifications and equal access to communications will be provided upon request. Meeting locations are planned with wheelchair access. If requiring Sign Language Interpreters or alternative formats, please give notice at least 4 days before the meeting date. Please call Gwen McGee at the Parks and Recreation Department, at 974-9477, for additional information; TTY users route through Relay Texas at 711.

For more information on the Urban Forestry Board, please contact Walter Passmore at [walter.passmore@austintexas.gov](mailto:walter.passmore@austintexas.gov) or by phone at 974-9545.